

Message Text

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70

ORIGIN OC-06

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 ADP-00 /007 R

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DRAFTED BY: OC/P: J.E. HANKS

APPROVED BYGC A/OC: W.E. NAEHER

OC/P: JAPANCAMO

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R 302213Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

UNCLAS STATE 173511

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE ANKARA BEIRUT ISLAMABAD
ISTANBUL KARACHI KATHMANDU LAHORE NEW DELHI PESHAWAR TEHRAN
FROM KABUL AUG 29 REPEATED FOR YOU:

QUOTE

UNCLAS KABUL 6365

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, ATRN, AF

SUBJECT: TRAVEL TO AFGHANISTAN

REF: KABUL 6167

1. EMBASSY HAS BECOME AWARE OF SEVERAL CASES IN WHICH POLICE AND
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR HAVE REFUSED RECOGNIZE VALIDITY OF VISAS
ISSUED BY FORMER AFGHAN GOVERNMENT. THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS DOES NOT CONFIRM THE EXISTENCE OF NEW RULES. SO FAR, ALL
CASES HAVE INVOLVED CURTAILMENT OF STAY OF TOURISTS WHO HAD
ALREADY BEEN ADMITTED TO AFGHANISTAN. AS FAR AS WE KNOW, NO ONE
HAS BEEN DENIED ENTRY AT AIRPORT OR LAND BORDERS BECAUSE THEY HAD
VISAS ISSUED BY FORMER GOVERNMENT, BUT WE EXPECT THIS DEVELOPMENT
SHORTLY.

2. UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, EMBASSY CAN NO LONGER RELY ON
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ADJUSTING VISA STATUS OF USG EMPLOYEES OR PRIVATE CITIZENS WHO

ARRIVE IN AFGHANISTAN WITH INCORRECT VISAS, NOR CAN WE RELY ON
OBTAINING FAST ACTION ON EXIT VISAS FOR TDY PERSONNEL OR VISITORS.
DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL SHOULD OBTAIN DIPLOMATIC VISAS PRIOR TO
ARRIVAL AFGHANISTAN, NON-DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL OF EMBASSY, USAID,
AND AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL SHOULD OBTAIN "ENTRY" (WORK)
VISAS; AND TOURISTS SHOULD NOT EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO EXTEND THEIR
TOURIST VISAS BEYOND THE INITIAL PERIOD OF VALIDITY. NEUMANN

UNQUOTE. ROGERS

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NNN

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